

headed in to district play with overall regular season tally of 14–2–2. Novi dimmed the Knights of Walled Lake Northern 1–0 before crushing the Farmington Falcons 5–0 in the district semifinal. The 'Cats eliminated the North Farmington Raiders to win the District 9 crown.

Moving on to regional match-ups, Novi got past Fraser's Ramblers by a score of 2–1. The Lady Wildcats defense would prove impenetrable against both Troy and Rochester Adams as the Green and White eked out identical 1–0 scores against the opposition in regional final and state semifinal matches, setting the stage for a Wildcat showdown.

Facing their KLAA rival Plymouth Wildcats in the final match of the season, the Novi Wildcats buried a 12 yard penalty kick midway through overtime giving Novi the right to raise high the Division 1 State Championship trophy.

Madam Speaker, with a season record of 21–2–2 and having earned an astounding 4th state title in the last 6 years, the 2010 Novi Lady Wildcats deserve to be recognized for their determination, achievement, spirit and effort. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Wildcats for obtaining this spectacular title and in honoring their devotion to our community and country.

#### GRANTING SUBPOENA POWER TO COMMISSION INVESTIGATING BP DEEPWATER OIL SPILL

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5481, granting Subpoena Power to the Commission Investigating the BP Oil Spill. Last month, President Obama established the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling, a panel that will be vital to investigating the disaster and assuring this does not happen again. However, this Commission does not have subpoena power—something critical to ensuring the full disclosure of evidence and witnesses.

In the aftermath of 9/11, I supported similar legislation that gave subpoena power to those investigating the terrorist attacks. Now we face a different kind of attack from the oil gushing out of the Gulf of Mexico. Similar to the work done post 9/11, the clean up workers are getting sick from this toxic waste.

The Commission must have the ability to investigate the shortcuts, cost-cutting and lack of oversight by BP and other responsible entities. Such unprincipled actions cost the lives of 11 men, injured 17, and continue to destroy an ecosystem and change a way of life for those along the Gulf. In order for the task force to mitigate the risks of future oil spills, the Commission must have full understanding of what led to the explosion on the Deepwater Oil Rig.

We need answers to the causes of this ecological man-made disaster. We need to be able to prevent this from happening again. The oversight inquiries Congress has already conducted into BP, Transocean and Halliburton have yielded crucial information. And

now, with subpoena power, the Commission can conduct its investigation to the fullest.

#### HONORING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ROBERT FIKE

**HON. KATHLEEN A. DAHLKEMPER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2010*

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of a fallen hero from Western Pennsylvania. Sergeant First Class Robert Fike of Conneautville, Pennsylvania was 38 years old when he made the ultimate sacrifice defending our nation in Afghanistan.

On June 11th, a suicide bomber detonated an explosive near the Bullard Bazaar in Zabul Province in southern Afghanistan where Sergeant First Class Robert Fike and his fellow soldier, Staff Sergeant Hoover, also of Western Pennsylvania, were on foot patrol. Both these brave men were killed in the explosion. They were members of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's Company C, 1st Battalion, 110th Infantry, based in Connellsville.

Robert Fike was passionate about his service to his country, and was the third generation of his family to be a member of the Armed Forces. He joined the Pennsylvania National Guard in 1993 after earning a degree in organic chemistry from Edinboro University in 1992. During his long military career, he served two tours overseas in Saudi Arabia from 2002 to 2003 and in Iraq from 2007 to 2008.

Protecting his community and his country was a way of life for Robert Fike. Every month, he drove the two hours from his home in Crawford County to Johnstown for specialized drills with the 20th Military Police Company. Robert also worked as a prison guard at the State Correctional Institute at Albion.

For his brave service and sacrifice, Sergeant First Class Robert Fike was awarded the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service medals and the Iraq Campaign Medal.

Robert is survived by his parents, James and Christine, and his 12 year old daughter, Mackenzie.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Sergeant First Class Robert Fike in the Record of the United States House of Representatives for service, sacrifice, commitment to his country and to our freedom.

While we struggle to express our sorrow over this loss, we can take pride in the example Robert set as a soldier. Today and always, he will be remembered by family and friends as a true American hero, and we cherish the legacy of his service and his life.

As I search for words to do justice to this valiant fallen soldier, I recall President Abraham Lincoln's words as he addressed the families of soldiers who died at Gettysburg:

"We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Robert.

#### CALLING FOR RELEASE OF ISRAELI SOLDIER BY HAMAS

SPEECH OF

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, earlier this year, the Jewish community celebrated the holiday of Passover, the Festival of Freedom. On that holy day, in thousands of synagogues and dining rooms, a somber yet determined prayer of hope was recited for Israeli soldiers held in captivity:

"Redeem them from amongst the kidnapped, and take them from slavery to freedom, from servitude to redemption, from darkness to light, and fully heal their wounds. Give them courage and spirit and strengthen their resilience."

Today, on the eve of a solemn anniversary, I would like to remind my colleagues of one Israeli who has remained in captivity for four years. On June 25th, 2006, Hamas and two other groups brutally and unjustifiably attacked an Israeli patrol, murdering two soldiers and kidnapping wounded Corporal Gilad Shalit, a member of the Israel Defense Forces' Armor Corps. Since then, Gilad Shalit has been denied medical attention, physical contact with his family, and visits from humanitarian groups like the International Committee of the Red Cross. This treatment constitutes clear violations of the Geneva Convention.

Moreover, Hamas has refused to negotiate the release of the abducted soldier despite the involvement of credible third parties and Israel's frequent acts of goodwill. For example, Israel proposed an exchange of hundreds of Palestinians being held in Israel for Shalit's freedom. Israel also takes a proactive stance in providing adequate humanitarian aid to Gaza's civilians. In fact, Israel recently eased the Gaza blockade. Yet Hamas continues to defy Israel's cooperative efforts and international pressure. By mocking diplomatic efforts to free Corporal Shalit peacefully, Hamas is exploiting the anguish of Shalit's family.

I am proud to have recently cosponsored bipartisan H. Res. 1359, which calls for the immediate and unconditional release of Gilad Shalit from Hamas captivity. This resolution sends the strong and undeniable message that the actions of Hamas are not only in violation of international custom and law, but they are also morally reprehensible and inhumane.

Corporal Shalit's release is not merely an Israeli goal; it should be the objective of the international community. Together, we should use available resources and strategies to obtain his immediate and safe release. I strongly call on President Obama, Secretary Clinton, and Ambassador Rice to advocate for Gilad Shalit's safe return and to stand beside Israel in its efforts to protect its soldiers and defend its citizens.